

ed itself at which there could be cause of complaint. The convicts appeared to be tractable industrious and under full subordination to the constituted authorities.

The Dormitory of the institution was an object of no small interest to the committee, to which apartment reference will be made in another part of this report; the condition of it however appeared as satisfactory as could be expected under the disadvantages connected with it, and creditable to the officers; in fact the male and female departments of prison with their appurtenances appeared to be in as good condition as the facilities of the prison afforded.

THE INMATES OF THE PRISON.

Your committee after a review of the Prison, its objects, and purposes and the melancholy interests associated with its inmates were seriously impressed with the important fact that there is no institution in the State more entitled to its attention, than this; it addresses itself to the magnanimity of our people and has a strong hold upon our sympathies, and humanity as one of the approved safeguards of society, designed to keep in check that spirit of defiance to the constituted laws of society that unfortunately attend it, the result of a frailty incident to mankind, in this view presenting, as it does, a melancholy necessity involving expense to the State it should enlist our best consideration, and every effort should be made to discover a plan by which the institution could sustain itself and be of no cost to the State. At the same time the dictates of humanity demonstrate that the best feelings of man's nature should be called into active play to devise plans in connection with the institution that would make it reformatory in its character and thereby in its reaction prove salutary to society.

OCCURENCES AT THE PENITENTIARY DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS.

Impressed with these views, your committee respectfully direct your attention to the several facts elicited during the course of their examination, and to which they shall refer in this report, and suggest that legislative action should be had thereto.

Your committee in the examination of the affairs of the prison for the last two years, included in the range of examination its every interest, in which was shown that some accidents had attended its history during that period that operated greatly to its financial injury, and incurred considerable cost. The committee do not undertake to justify or condemn these misfortunes, and state that from their examination of parties, pro and con, in reference to the aforesaid accidents that testimony was their guide, and consequently they do not feel at liberty to make any comments thereon.